REMARKS

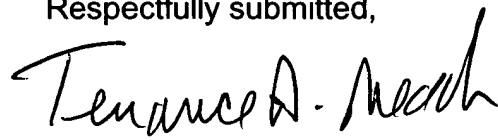Claims 1, 3, and 7-10 have been amended. Claims 2 and 11-55 have been canceled. Claims 56 and 57 are new.

The amendments to claim 1 and new claims 56 and 57 are supported in the specification, for example in FIGS. 1, 3, and 4 and at page 9, line 26 – page 10, line 3, and therefore do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1-55 are rejected for lack of enablement on the basis that they contain subject matter not found in the specification. The rejection is moot with respect to canceled claims 2 and 11-55. Claims 1, 56 and 57 are drawn to methods performed in an apparatus for receiving a multidimensional digital frame structure including a plurality of frames (the overhead receiver 124 of FIG. 1 and the frame structures of FIGS. 2, 5, and 6 and tables 1-4). The methods go to synchronizing frames based upon a selected bit error rate of frame synchronization bytes. See FIG. 4 and its description in the specification at page 20, line 6 through page 22, line 7. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection with respect to claims 1 and 3-10.

Claims 1-20 are rejected for vagueness. It is submitted that the amendments to claim 1 remove the grounds for this rejection.

Accordingly, the claims remaining in the application clearly recite subject matter enabled by the specification and patentably distinct from the references of record, early notice of which is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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